

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/383,924

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Applicant(s)

MORI, JUNICHI

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment after final on 11/12/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-39, 49 and 50 renumbered as 1-41.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 August 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Tranlong

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-39, 49 and 50 are allowed.

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 26-27, 35, 49-50 are independent claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 1, 5, and 9, the present invention from the application discloses a printing system, a method and control program for performing a print process, “ wherein the information means (step) enabling to inhibit informing the user of the paper output place information when a request is not issued by the requisition means (step), and wherein the information means (step) enabling to inform the user of information by which the user can confirm which paper output place of which printer is used for the designated print job, when the request is issued by the requisition means (step) in a case where plural printers are present in the printing system”.

As to claims 13, 26 and 49, the present invention from the application discloses a printing system, a method and control program for performing a print process in which “ the notification unit (step) enabling a notification of information including information by which the user can confirm which sheet storage unit of which printer is used for the designated print job, when the request is issued by performance of the request unit (step) in case where plural printers are present in the printing system”.

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As to claims 27, 35 and 50, the present invention from the application discloses a printing system, a method and control program for performing a print process in which “the response output unit (step) enabling output of information including information by which the user can discriminate which sheet storage unit of which printer is used for the designated print job, when the request is input by the request input unit (step) in case where plural printers are present in the printing system”.

The closest prior art such as Nishiwaki (US Patent No. RE37,031 E) discloses a printer which has a function of locking bins containing printouts so that the security of each printed material can be protected; and Mandel (US Patent No. 5,435,544) teaches the customer can additionally or alternatively look at the mailbox user interface and find out all the various customer names and bin locations of customers currently having jobs in the mailbox unit. However, the combination of Nishiwaki and Mandel, including an updated electronic text search, fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations from claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 26-27, 35, 49-50 obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Contact information

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Dec. 21, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tran Douglas", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.